State Senator

Wayne Kuipers

30th District

Senator Wayne Kuipers was elected to the Michigan Senate in 2002 after having served two terms in the House of Representatives. He represents the 30th District of Michigan, which encompasses Ottawa County, the city of Grandville and Sparta Township in Kent County.

Senator Kuipers chairs the Senate Education Committee -- bringing a wealth of experience to that position after serving as chair of the House Education Committee for two years. He is vice-chair of the Senate Committee on Technology & Energy and the Senate Transportation Committee. Kuipers also serves on the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and he was elected Majority Caucus Chair by his peers.

Kuipers currently serves as a member of the National Conference of State Legislatures' Education Task Force and the American Legislative Exchange Council's Education Task Force, committees made up of legislators from across the country who are devoted to promoting excellence in education.

Senator Kuipers has received numerous accolades for his legislative efforts, including the Independent Colleges and Universities' *Distinguished Service Award*, Michigan Manufacturers Association's *Advocate of the Year*, the Michigan Business & Professional Association's *Distinguished Service Award*, the Michigan Parent, Teacher & Student Association's *Legislator of the Year*, and was the only legislator to receive the Small Business Association of Michigan's *Champion of Small Business* for the 2002-2004 session.

Kuipers earned his B.A. in Special Education from Calvin College in 1983 and a master's degree in Management from Aquinas College in 1995. Kuipers is a graduate of the Michigan Political Leadership Program and a 2000 graduate of the Boway Institute for Legislative Leadership Development (BILLD).

A lifelong resident of the Holland area, Kuipers worked at Hollandia Gardens Inc. until his election in 1998, serving as a project manager, general manager and vice president. He also served as a management consultant for Bosch's Landscape and Lawn Specialties, Inc.

Senator Kuipers has been an active member of the Holland Area Chamber of Commerce, the Home Builders Association of Holland, is an honorary Rotarian, and past member of the Holland Kiwanis. He is also an honorary member of Tulip City Rod & Gun Club.

Wayne and his wife Jodi have three children, Corey, 18; Jenna, 16; and Makenzie, 13. The Kuipers family attends Faith Christian Reformed Church in Holland.